

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to comply better with US rules. Claim 10 has been canceled and replaced with new claim 15. Claim 16 corresponds to original claims 1 and 9. Claim 17 and 18 correspond to original claims 4 and 5, respectively.. No new matter has been added.

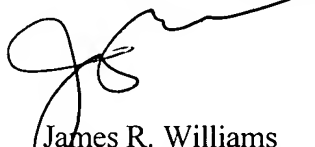
The claims include three independent claims and 17 total claims. No additional fees are due

In view of the above, Applicants believe that the amended specification and claims conform to standard U.S. practice, and are now in condition for allowance. Applicants request consideration and allowance of pending claims 1-14.

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Respectfully submitted,



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